

**REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF JANUARY 24, 2007**

President Stewart called to order the Regular Meeting of Crafton Borough Council, in Council Chambers of the Community Center; Flag Salute was led by Mr. Cindric. Roll call, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded eight (8) members of Council present, as follows: Mr. Christman, Mr. Cindric, Mr. Donovan, Mr. Ms. Koerbel, Mr. Ogden, Mrs. Sappie, Mrs. Viola and Mr. Stewart. Also present were Mayor O'Connell, Manager Sample, Solicitor Austin, Engineer Wagner and Jr. Council McNamara. (*Absent: Mr. Byers*)

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Ms. Koerbel, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to approve the January 24, 2007 List of Bills.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (8-0), with exceptions noted by Mr. Donovan (#404.32, #413.12, #414.12).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was regularly moved by Ms. Koerbel, seconded by Mr. Ogden, to approve the meeting Minutes of January 10, 2007.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (8-0).

CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Joan Kury, Lincoln Avenue – Ms. Kury requested that residents be made better aware of crime incidents in the borough, via local newspapers and Crime Watch Reports; need better publicity on the Opt-In feature on Crafton's website.

RECEIPT OF WRITTEN REPORTS

The following written reports were provided in Council's Packet: The Treasurer's Report, Financial Report, Act 511 and Trash Collection Fee Reports, Property Tax Collector's Report, Police Report, Building Inspector, REMs Report, Animal Control and the Engineer's Report. Ms. Koerbel and Fire Chief Hermes reported the quick fire-fighting measures that were taken at a vacant structure fire on Steuben Street. Mr. Donovan/Mr. Stewart ... trash misses, call Waste Management to report and request pickup.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor O'Connell reported that the department responded to 249 complaints for the month of December, and referred Council to the written report. She stated that the recent Crime Alert involved theft of copper piping from a vacant home; she asked to watch vacant homes for this type of activity. The Crime Watch meeting is being rescheduled to the 1st week, or so, in February. The 2006 Annual Police report will be provided to Council at the next meeting. She announced that there is still a shortage of school crossing guards.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Stewart reported that Council met on Monday, 1/22/07, at a publicly advertised meeting, to discuss the proposed bond borrowing and bridge repairs. Council will continue to research the financing alternatives and various types of repairs in order that they may make a responsible determination, and are trying to resolve this as quickly as possible.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Wagner reported that they have worked up estimates for both partial and full deck replacement, and are awaiting Council's decision. They have approved the 37 White Avenue demolition work, which is to be paid by the COG; 100 % grant-funded. Jan. 25, 2007, at 10 am is the pre-bid meeting for the

sewer defects contract, and bids to be open at 10 am on Feb. 1, 2007. He requested that Council begin looking at streets for consideration for the 2007 paving program.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Sample reported that he, Solicitor Ayoob and Engineer Wagner met regarding the PennVest loan; this will close before April. He also met with the DEP and Engineer Wagner to review the nine minimum controls for compliance with the Consent Order. He and the office staff met with Case Sabatini to begin work on the 2006 General Fund audit.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Black's Bridge - Manager Sample referred Council to the "Bridge Options" memo, dated 1/24 – PennDOT bridge rating, realistic time table for funding is 10 years; two options for deck replacement, full deck for \$950,000, life span approx. 30 years, or partial deck and deck repair, \$450,000., life span approx. 10 years. Mr. Cindric commented on the 2005 Inspection Report; remaining life of structure estimated to be only 14 years; questioned why do a 30 year full deck replacement when the structure only has an estimated remaining life of 14 years. Engineer Wagner would like to defer this question and clarify it with their structural engineer. Engineer Wagner stated that from the time of Council's decision, he will require two weeks to prepare specs and design for bid.
2. Bond Issue – This information is pending until a decision is made on the bridge repairs.
3. Reduce number of Councilpersons – Reduced to 7 members. Survey of Council; not enough interest to proceed further. Section 815 of the Borough Code: Would require a petition of registered electors of the borough. Changes to the Borough code are being considered by the State on this subject.
4. Litter Clean-up Committee/Program – PA literature provided to Council; Statewide Clean-up Day on April 21st. Mrs. Koerbel stated that we should have a similar campaign and work with volunteers, also get the schools involved. Mr. Stewart said get volunteers, and establish a committee; but volunteers are harder and harder to get. Mr. Cindric stated that there are quite a lot of 55 gal. trash containers throughout the borough, but no one notices them. Perhaps a campaign to repaint the containers or place a slogan on them will encourage litter cleanup. Mrs. Viola suggested that the schools in the area be contacted, certain schools require a number of hours of community service.
5. Committee assignments - Mrs. Sappie stated that she had spoken to Mr. Christman and he has declined his appointment to represent the Recreation Board due to the amount of work on the Crafton Celebrates committee, and she has offered to remain on as the representative. Likewise, Mr. Donovan declined his appointment to represent the Shade Tree Commission and requested that Mrs. Koerbel be their representative. Ms. Koerbel questioned that the Mayor was appointed to represent the Library Board, rather than a member of Council. Mr. Stewart stated that she is a member of the Library Board, and felt she would represent them well. Mrs. Sappie asked what is expected from the committees; periodic reports, meetings, etc.? Mr. Stewart stated that he would prepare a memo with some guidance.
6. Commission Appointments - Manager Sample stated that there are vacancies on both the Zoning Hearing Board (1 seat; 2 alternates) and the Building Code Appeals board (2 seats; 2 alternates). Letters of interest have been provided to Council for consideration. Mr. Cindric stated that the COG has a panel available to assist with the Building Code Appeals board member; which does require specific qualifications. Mr. Stewart suggested this be acted upon at the first meeting in February.
7. CVFD Mobile Data Unit - Mr. Cindric stated that this was discussed with the CVFD; and it is their desire to have an MDT installed in the fire truck to assist them with information (fire hydrant locations, number of family members, location of children's bedrooms), working with the engineers to create an overlay to the existing maps, etc. Mr. Stewart requested more information be provided to Council on this matter before spending anymore money.

BUSINESS AGENDA
ADMINISTRATIVE

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Christman, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to designate the Borough Manager and Councilman Daniel Cindric and Jack Donovan to represent Crafton Borough and attend the 2007 ALOM Annual Conference.

MOTION carried by a Six yes, Two abstention (Cindric, Donovan) Roll Call Vote (6-2).

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Cindric, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to approve advertisement for the summer recreation and public works employment.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (8-0).

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Cindric, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to approve advertisement for the PENNVEST Borrowing Ordinance.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (8-0).

PERSONNEL:

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Cindric, seconded by Ms. Koerbel, to not appeal the Adjudication of the Civil Service Commission that requires a letter of reprimand be placed in Officer Donnie Breeden's personnel file consistent with the form attached to the Civil Service Commission's Adjudication.

MOTION carried by a Seven Yes, One No (Cindric) Voice Vote (7-1).

PUBLIC SAFETY

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Cindric, seconded by Mr. Ogden, to approve the purchase of a Bullard T4 Thermal Imaging Camera and Truck Mount Charger for the Crafton Volunteer Fire Department through the COSTARS program for an amount not to exceed \$13,000.00.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (8-0).

~~MOTION: I move to authorize Gateway Engineers to meet with representatives from the Crafton Volunteer Fire Department to discuss the use of a future mobile data terminal and the software associated with it for an amount not to exceed \$500.00. Motion removed from the Agenda.~~

PUBLIC WORKS:

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Sappie, seconded by Mr. Christman, to waive the sewer tap-in fee, in the amount of \$1,500., for 534 Willard Avenue in lieu of any refund of prior sewer payments and that the owner proceeds in a timely manner in tapping into the main sewer line.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (8-0).

BUILDING ENFORCEMENT

~~MOTION: I move to appoint _____ to the Crafton Building Appeals Board for a three (3) year term to expire on December 31, 2009. Motion removed from the Agenda.~~

ZONING ENFORCEMENT

~~MOTION: I move to appoint _____ to the Crafton Zoning Hearing Board for a three (3) year term to expire on December 31, 2009. Motion removed from the Agenda.~~

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Mr. Stewart stated that hard numbers have to be available for the next meeting so the borrowing can proceed. Manager Sample stated that several funding options will be provided along with the options and bridge repair alternatives.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mrs. Sappie – Some revisions are needed to the reports for the Nine Minimum Controls. She clarified that doing Type 2 repairs would not prevent Blacks Bridge from being on the TIP list, as long as no federal money is spent on the bridge within the next 5 to 10 years.

Mr. Cindric – COG provided its member directory and it is available for review in the borough office; and elected new officers to the COG. Mr. Cindric will be attending, and speaking, at the Port Authority meeting regarding the elimination of several Crafton routes. Ms. Koerbel stated that the study prepared by the Intern shows that Crafton is a transit-oriented community. Mr. Stewart expressed concerns of Park 'n Ride patron overflow onto Borough streets. Mr. Cindric questioned the public transportation requirements of the Sanders decree.

Ms. Koerbel – Announced that a special Planning Meeting was scheduled for Monday, January 29th, at 6pm, regarding CVS request for preliminary and final approval. She reminded everyone that the Planning Commission is advisory only, and that this project will come before Council for approval.

Mr. Ogden – He noted that the Ordinance Officer's report listed 26 items, of which 16 pertained to trash problems.

Ms. McNamara – Reminded everyone of the paper recycle collection containers at the schools.

Mr. Christman – Reminded every one of the next Crafton Celebrates meeting, for February 13th, at 7 pm. – Still need more volunteers.

Mr. Stewart – Reported that he, and Mr. Cindric, met with Chief Hermes and the CVFD. The door problem has been resolved and the electrician's will be providing a proposal to change the wiring set up in the borough building; and to disregard the prior memo on this matter. Mr. Cindric stated that the "house numbering" problem was also addressed; and that 4" numbers are required, by Ordinance, on all houses in the borough; and can be purchased quite inexpensively at Busy Beaver.

ADDITIONAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

Joan Kury – She inquired if the Bridge being out had any influence on the recent citizen injury involving the UPS truck, and it is still under police investigation due to the fatality. She asked for clarification on the bridge life expectancies under the two scenarios; being 30 years on the full deck and approx. 10-15 years on the partial deck replacement.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Donvoan, seconded by Mr. Ogden, that this meeting be adjourned.

MOTION carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary